GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:655
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
AIR ON DTH
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Radio is launching 24 hour channel service on the Direct to Home (DTH) platform;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 'News on phone' service is being provided in the selected urban areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to extend this telephone service to the other areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) and (b) : All India Radio has already launched 12 channels of 24 hours duration on DTH Platform, namely :

(i) Bengali

(ii) FM Gold

(iii) FM Rainbow

(iv) Gujarati

(v) Hindi

(vi) Kannada

(vii) Marathi

(viii) North East (Hill Services)

(ix) Punjabi

(x) Tamil

(xi) Telugu and

(xii) Vividh Bharati.

(c) to (e) : Yes, Sir. At present, 'News on Phone' service is available in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Patna. The installation work is in progress at 10 more capital cities at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Guwahati, Imphal, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Raipur, Shimla and Thiruvananthapuram.